



ASMNUT.135A

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Basol et al.
Appl. No. : 10/698,875
Filed : October 31, 2003
For : METHOD AND DEVICE TO
REMOVE UNWANTED
MATERIAL FROM THE EDGE
REGION OF A WORKPIECE
Examiner : Kielen, Erik J.
Group Art Unit : 2813

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

May 20, 2005

(Date)

Tina Chen, Reg. No. 44,606

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND ELECTION OF SPECIES**Mail Stop Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In an action mailed March 23, 2005, the Examiner required restriction of prosecution to one of the following inventions:

I. Claims 1-20, drawn to a method of removing a conductive edge bead (claims 1-18) and an integrated circuit formed thereby (product-by-process claims 19-20), classified in class 438, subclass 694.

II. Claims 21-32, drawn to an apparatus for performing edge bead removal, classified in class 156, subclass 345.1.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect, without traverse, to proceed with examination on the merits of Claims 1-20, drawn to a method.

The Examiner has also required Applicants to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held

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to be allowable. The Examiner has found that the application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

A. The device and method associated with the devices:

A-1. Figs. 3A, 4A

A-2. Fig. 4B

A-3. Fig. 4C

A-4. Figs. 4D-4E

A-5. Fig. 6

A-6. Fig. 7

B. The positioning of the workpiece:

B-1. Fig. 3C

B-2. Fig. 3D

In response to the restriction and election of species requirements, Applicants elect, without traverse, to proceed with examination on the merits of the claims drawn to the invention of Group A, Species A-1a (Figs. 3A, 4A), etchant cavity width wider than thickness of workpiece; and Group B, Species B-2, Fig. 3D. The claims that read on the elected invention and species are Claims 1-4, 7, 8, and 19, and are included herein in the Listing of the Claims, which begins on page 3.

A one-month extension of time is hereby requested.

A Listing of Claims begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper